

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-7 are now in the application. Claims 1-7 are subject to examination. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended. Claims 6 and 7 are new.

Under the heading "Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102" on pages 2-3 of the above-identified Office Action, claims 1-5 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,608,783 to Frankowsky et al. (hereinafter Frankowsky) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

The Examiner refers to column 6, lines 17 to 60, where Frankowsky discloses that the device is capable of operating in a multi-bank environment. Each of the sense amplifiers from each bank is activated simultaneously as the multiple banks of the entire array are in operation. The Examiner is furthermore believed to be of the opinion that in Frankowsky, the write data is written into the corresponding banks to the write amplifiers simultaneously, depending on a test mode signal.

With regard to Fig. 1 of the instant application, it is clear, that the memory cell array according to the instant

application has memory cells and that the memory cell array is a consistent memory cell array wherein each of the plurality of word lines crosses each of the plurality of bit lines. In the memory cell array, the memory cells are situated at crossover points of the word lines and the bit lines (see page 7, lines 14 to 21 of the specification of the instant application).

The simultaneous addressing of bit lines in different memory arrays, i.e. in different memory banks or even in different memory devices, as taught in Frankowsky, is therefore completely different from the meaning of claim 1 of the instant application. A simultaneous activating of bit lines of one consistent memory array is therefore not disclosed in the document Frankowsky. Claims 1 and 4 of the instant application have been amended to recite that the memory cells are disposed at the crossover points of the word lines and the bit lines to support applicant's arguments. As noted above, support is found on page 7, lines 14-21 and as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the specification for the amended language for claims 1 and 4.

Furthermore, it is disclosed in the specification of the instant application on page 10, line 23 to page 11, line 10 that the address decoder is connected to each of the

switching devices which are provided for each bit line pair by a respective column select line CSL such that depending on an applied bit line address BA one of the column select CSL lines is selected to activate the switching device during a normal operation. In a test mode operation, the address decoder operates the column select line to activate the respective switching devices depending on a test mode signal such that the switching devices are activated such that the data on the data line pair is simultaneously applied to the primary sense amplifiers.

Claims 6 and 7 have been added to the application to support applicant's argument. Support for claim 6 is found from page 10, line 23 to page 11, line 10.

Claim 7 is a combination of claims 1 and 2 plus the information derived from page 10, line 23 to page 11, line 10.

This is not believed to be disclosed in detail in the Frankowsky reference, as Frankowsky only describes the simultaneously activating of word lines in different memory banks. A simultaneous activating within a consistent memory array is therefore not disclosed.

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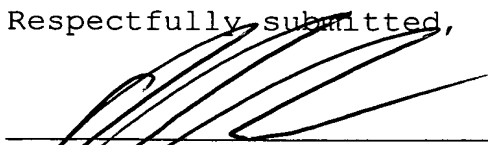
It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1, 4 or 7. Claims 1, 4 and 7 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claim 1 or 4.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-7 are solicited.

If an extension of time is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Any extension fee associated therewith should be charged to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Please charge any other fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



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